

To the Public Health Committee

I, Alon Cohen, of Portland Connecticut ask that you consider opposing the following:

Oppose S.B. No. 477- Specifically all of section 7 is just corruption pure and simple. Members on the committee will be sending grants to organizations that they themselves are still a part of while on the committee. The corruption shows itself in section 7 i "(2) secure state, federal and other funds for the purposes of reducing community gun violence...(4) (A) establish and implement a grant program, and (B) award grants and offer guidance to organizations or other entities working toward reducing community gun violence in the state." The fact that "other funds" wording is used outside the state and federal funding of the grants shows that private people, possibly millionaires/billionaires will funnel money through these funds which will go towards groups that are associated with members of the committee. This looks like corruption to me.

Oppose H.B. No. 5397- Gun violence is not a public health crisis it is a social economic problem. The fallacy here is that if guns are considered a public health crisis then why are knives, cars, and any other thing used in a violent act not considered a public health crisis? The other fallacy here is that gun violence used to protect oneself and/or others legally in a self defense encounter will still be considered a public health crisis; even though it should be reasonable to defend oneself from someone trying to kill you or someone else.

Sincerely,
Alon Cohen